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TEOREMA.

By J. M. MONSANTO, Mayaguez, Porto Rico, W. I.

Encontré en un libro, que el cubo de un número menos su raiz, es un múltiplo de 6, es decir que $x^3 - x = 6n$, pero no lo demostraba. Hallé la demostración y traté de sacar algún partido de este teorema. Nada encontré, pero en mis investigaciones di con otro teorema que he aplicado a la extracción de la raíz cónica.

El teorema es el siguiente: Todo número dividida por 6, dà un residuo igual al que dà su cubo dividido por dicho número 6, o vice versa,—todo cubo dividido por 6, da un residuo igual al que da su raíz dividida por dicho número 6. Efectivamente, todo número que no es múltiple de 6, puede representarse por una de las siguientes expresiones— $x+1$, $x+2$, $x+3$, $x+4$, $x+5$, siendo x igual a cero ó un múltiplo de 6.

Si x es igual 0, hallaremos que los cubos de 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 ó 1, 8, 27, 64, 125, divididos por 6, dan por residuo 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

Si x es un múltiplo de 6, tendremos $(x+1)^3 = x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 1$, expresión que dividida por 6 dà por residuo 1.

$(x+2)^3 = x^3 + 6x^2 + 12x + 8$, expresión que dividida por 6, nos dà un residuo de 2. Así mismo se encuentra que $\left. \begin{matrix} (x+3)^3 \\ (x+4)^3 \\ (x+5)^3 \end{matrix} \right\}$ divididos por 6 dan por residuo, 3, 4, 5, y queda demostrado el teorema.

La extracción de la raíz cónica es una operación algo difícil y que exige bastantes cálculos; así es que algunos tratados elementales de aritmética aconsejan que para la extracción de dichas raíces se proceda por tanteo, pero el teorema arriba indicado permite reducir este tanteo á límites muy estrechos tratándose de cubos perfectos. Conociendo el número final de este cubo, desde luego sabremos en qué número termina su raíz, y restando de este número el residuo que da la división del cubo por 6, podremos saber en qué número habrá terminar el múltiplo de 6, que agregado al residuo, da la raíz.

Supongamos que se pida la raíz cónica del número 493039. Este cubo acaba en 9; por consiguiente su raíz debe acabar en 9. El residuo de la división por 6 es uno, 1, y $9-1=8$, es decir que la raíz debe ser un múltiplo de 6 que acaba en 8 más 1. 493039 es visiblemente menor que el cubo de 80 y mayor que el cubo de 70: entre 70 y 80, no hay más que un múltiplo de 6 que acaba en 8, que es 78 y desde luego digo sin buscar más que la raíz es $78+1=79$.

Busquemos la raíz de 35,287,552. La raíz debe acabar en 8. Siendo el residuo de la división por 6, 4, la raíz deberá ser formada por un múltiplo de 6 que acabe en 4+4. El dicho cubo es mayor que 300 y menor que 350 como se puede ver por una pequeña multiplicación. Entre estos dos números no hay más que un múltiplo de 6 que acaba en 4. Es el número 324 y sin más tanteos digo que la raíz es $324+4=328$.

THEOREM.

I found in a book, that the cube of a number less its root, is a multiple of 6, that is to say, that $x^3 - x = 6n$, but it was not demonstrated. I found the demonstration and tried to get some practical use out of this theorem. I found nothing, but in my investigations I found another theorem which I have applied to the extraction of the cube root. The theorem is the following: Every number divided by 6 gives a remainder equal to that which its cube gives, divided by said number 6; or vice versa, every cube divided by 6 gives a remainder equal to that which its cube root gives, divided by said number 6. Therefore, every number which is not a multiple of 6 may be represented by one of the following expressions: $x+1, x+2, x+3, x+4, x+5$, x being equal to zero or a multiple of 6. If x is equal to 0 we will find that the cubes of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 1, 8, 27, 64, 125 divided by 6 give for remainders 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

If x is a multiple of 6, we will have $(x+1)^3 = x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 1$, an expression that divided by 6, gives 1 for a remainder.

$(x+2)^3 = x^3 + 6x^2 + 12x + 8$, an expression that divided by 6, gives us 2 for a remainder. In the same way it is found that $(x+4)^3$ divided by 6 gives for remainders 3, 4, 5 (respectively); and the theorem is demonstrated.

The extraction of the cube root is a somewhat difficult operation, and (one) which requires much calculation; thus it is that some elementary treatises of arithmetic advise that for the extraction of said cubic roots (one) should proceed by approximation, but the theorem above indicated, allows (one) to reduce this approximation to very narrow limits when treating of perfect cubes. Knowing the final number of this cube, consequently we will know in what number its root ends, and subtracting from this number the remainder which the cube divided by 6 gives, we will be able to know in what number the multiple of 6 must end which, added to the remainder, gives the root.

Let us suppose that the cube root of 493039 is asked. This cube ends in 9, consequently its root must end in 9. The remainder of the division by 6 is 1, and $9-1=8$, that is to say that the root must be a multiple of 6 which ends in 8, plus 1. 493039 is plainly less than the cube of 80 and more than the cube of 70; between 70 and 80 there is but one multiple of 6 which ends in 8, which is 78, and consequently I say without any more search that the root is $78+1=79$.

Let us try to find the root of 35,287,552. The root must end by 8. Four, 4, being the remainder of the division by 6, the root must be formed of a multiple of 6 which ends in 4 + 4. The said cube is greater than 300, and less than 350, as may be seen by a small multiplication. Between these two numbers there is but one multiple of 6 which ends in 4. It is the number 324, and without more search I say that the root is $324+4=328$.